

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sample 1000 General Population Respondents
 Conducted July 11-13, 2015
 Margin of Error ±4.1%

1. Some people seem to follow what’s going on in government and public affairs most of the time, whether there’s an election going on or not. Others aren’t that interested. Would you say you follow what’s going on in government and public affairs...?

Most of the time 47%
 Some of the time 30%
 Only now and then 13%
 Hardly at all 8%
 Don’t know 1%

2. Would you say things in this country today are...

Generally headed in the right direction 27%
 Off on the wrong track 63%
 Not sure 10%

3. Which of the following countries do you consider to be a friend or an enemy of the United States?

	Ally of U.S.	Friendly	Unfriendly	Enemy of the U.S.	Not sure
Turkey	9%	35%	21%	6%	29%
Greece	13%	51%	10%	1%	24%
Iran	2%	5%	34%	45%	14%
Israel	41%	24%	12%	5%	17%

4. Within your lifetime do you think the US will consider Iran to be a friendly country?

Yes 16%
 No 57%
 Not sure 27%

5. How serious a threat do you think Iran’s nuclear program poses to the United States?

An immediate and serious threat to the U.S.	31%
A somewhat serious threat to the U.S.	40%
A minor threat to the U.S.	16%
Not a threat to the U.S.	7%
Not sure	7%

6. What strategy should the US employ to get Iran to limit its nuclear program? (Select all that apply.)

Threaten Iran with of the possible use of military force	26%
Threaten Iran with harsher economic sanctions	41%
Reward Iran with easing of economic sanctions	21%
Reward Iran with a guarantee of no use of military force	10%
Reward Iran with resumption of diplomatic relations	19%
Something else	6%
Not sure	23%

7. In your opinion, which is more important?

Preventing Iran from developing nuclear weapons, even if it means taking military actions	57%
Avoiding military conflict with Iran, even if it means they develop nuclear weapons	24%
Not sure	19%

8. Do you think the United States should or should not engage in negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program?

Should	59%
Should not	27%
Not sure	14%

9. How closely have you been following the news on the current round of negotiations to limit Iran’s nuclear capabilities?

Very closely	13%
Somewhat closely	39%
Not very closely	31%
Not closely at all	18%

10. How much do you trust the government of Iran to adhere to any agreement which limits that country’s ability to produce a nuclear weapon?

A great deal	3%
Some	18%
Not much	28%
Not at all	39%
Not sure	12%

11. Do you think inspectors will be able to verify if Iran is adhering to any agreement to limit its nuclear program?

Yes	23%
No	47%
Not sure	30%

12. Who do you trust more when it comes to negotiating treaties with other countries?

The President	24%
The US Senate	15%
Both equally	17%
Neither	31%
Not sure	13%

13. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of John Kerry?

Very favorable	10%
Somewhat favorable	28%
Somewhat unfavorable	21%
Very unfavorable	22%
Don't know	20%

14. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling Iran?

Strongly approve	12%
Somewhat approve	28%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	27%
No opinion	18%

15. How closely have you been following the news about Greece's debt problem and how it affects the rest of Europe?

Very closely	13%
Somewhat closely	45%
Not very closely	27%
Not following at all	15%

16. How much of a negative impact do you think the Greek debt crisis will have on the world economy?

Large negative impact	11%
Moderate negative impact	43%
Small negative impact	29%
No negative impact at all	3%
Not sure	14%

17. How much of a negative impact do you think the Greek debt crisis will have on the US economy?

Large negative impact	5%
Moderate negative impact	29%
Small negative impact	40%
No negative impact at all	11%
Not sure	15%

18. How much of a negative impact do you think the Greek debt crisis will have on you personally?

Large negative impact	4%
Moderate negative impact	10%
Small negative impact	22%
No negative impact at all	44%
Not sure	19%

19. How likely do you think it is that the United States' national debt and other financial obligations could lead to a financial crisis here like the one in Greece?

Very likely	20%
Somewhat likely	29%
Somewhat unlikely	22%
Very unlikely	16%
Not sure	14%

20. Who's to blame for the Greece crisis?

Past/present Greek governments	30%
The European Union / International Monetary Fund / European Central Bank	8%
Both equally	36%
Don't know	27%

21. Do you think that other European countries should...

Reduce and renegotiate Greece's debt	37%
Insist on the terms as they were initially agreed	29%
Not sure	34%

22. Should Greece leave the eurozone?

Leave	25%
Stay	24%
Don't know	50%

23. Do you favor or oppose providing a way for illegal immigrants currently in the country to gain legal citizenship if they pass background checks, pay fines, and have jobs?

Favor	54%
Oppose	34%
Not sure	12%

24. Do you favor or oppose a federal policy that would grant temporary work authorization and defer deportation proceedings against (illegal/undocumented) immigrants who are parents of US citizens, have passed a background check, and pay taxes?

Favor	58%
Oppose	30%
Not sure	12%

25. Passing a law that would allow illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. as children to gain legal resident status if they go to college

Strongly support	22%
Somewhat support	25%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	26%
Don't know	12%

26. Passing a law that would allow illegal immigrants brought to the U.S. as children to gain legal resident status if they join the military

Strongly support	27%
Somewhat support	29%
Somewhat oppose	13%
Strongly oppose	20%
Don't know	11%

27. Do you favor or oppose a federal policy that would allow immigrant students who arrived illegally as minors to apply for temporary legal status if enrolled in college or the military?

Favor	51%
Oppose	32%
Not sure	17%

28. How serious a problem is ILLEGAL immigration in the United States?

Very serious	48%
Somewhat serious	28%
A minor problem	18%
Not a problem	3%
Not sure	3%

29. How serious a problem is ILLEGAL immigration in your LOCAL community?

Very serious	18%
Somewhat serious	24%
A minor problem	23%
Not a problem	23%
Not sure	11%

30. Do you believe the US is a nation of immigrants?

Yes	81%
No	12%
Not sure	7%

31. Which of these statements best describes you?

Immigrant Citizen	6%
Immigrant non-citizen	6%
First generation	8%
Second generation	17%
Third generation	59%
Prefer not to say	3%

32. Do you think illegal immigrants who come to the U.S. are more or less likely to commit violent crimes than other people, or is there no difference?

More likely	29%
No difference	52%
Less likely	10%
Don't know	10%

33. Do you think migrants coming from Mexico to the United States in recent decades have mostly made a positive impact, a negative impact on the US economy?

Mostly positive	28%
Neither	22%
Mostly negative	35%
Don't know	15%

34. Do you personally know anyone who is an illegal immigrant?

Yes	24%
No	60%
Not sure	16%

35. Should people report employers who hire illegal immigrants?

Yes	63%
No	21%
Not sure	16%

36. Do you favor or oppose the following immigration policy proposals?

	Favor	Oppose	Not sure
Requiring churches to report illegal immigrants	30%	48%	22%
Increasing fines for employers who hire illegal immigrants	67%	18%	15%
Making it a crime to hire illegal immigrants	62%	22%	15%
Requiring police to report illegal immigrants to federal government	67%	20%	14%
Not allowing illegal immigrants to attend public school	42%	40%	18%
Constructing a large wall along the border with Mexico	46%	35%	20%

37. Which comes closest to your view about illegal immigrants who are living in the U.S.?

They should be allowed to stay in the U.S. and apply for citizenship.	46%
They should be allowed to stay in the U.S., but not become citizens.	15%
They should be required to leave the U.S.	39%

38. How likely is it that Congress will pass immigration reform this year?

Very likely	5%
Somewhat likely	13%
Somewhat unlikely	21%
Very unlikely	41%
Not sure	20%

39. Do you think the federal government spends too much, not enough, or about the right amount of money on border security?

Too much	14%
About the right amount	20%
Not enough	47%
Not sure	19%

40. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're sending people that have lots of problems. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists."

Agree strongly	20%
Agree somewhat	22%
Disagree somewhat	18%
Disagree strongly	29%
Not sure	11%

41. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "Yes, illegal immigrants broke the law, but it's not a felony. It's an act of love, it's an act of commitment to your family..."

Agree strongly	10%
Agree somewhat	24%
Disagree somewhat	18%
Disagree strongly	33%
Not sure	14%

42. Do you think the Republican Party’s position on immigration will help or hurt the party in the upcoming 2016 election, or do you think it will not make a difference in the election?

Help the Republican party in 2016	11%
Help as much as it hurts the party	24%
Hurt the Republican party in 2016	32%
Not sure	33%

43. When it comes to immigration reform, which party do you trust most?

Republican party	22%
Democratic party	28%
Both equally	5%
Neither	34%
Not sure	11%

44. Which one of the Republican candidates for president in 2016 would best handle the issue of immigration?

Jeb Bush	11%
Ben Carson	2%
Chris Christie	3%
Ted Cruz	4%
Carly Fiorina	1%
Lindsey Graham	1%
Mike Huckabee	1%
Bobby Jindal	0%
John Kasich	1%
George Pataki	1%
Rand Paul	4%
Rick Perry	1%
Marco Rubio	4%
Rick Santorum	1%
Donald Trump	20%
Scott Walker	1%
Not sure	23%
None of them	21%

45. Which one of the Democratic candidates for president in 2016 comes would best handle the issue of immigration?

Joe Biden	4%
Lincoln Chafee	0%
Hillary Clinton	19%
Bernie Sanders	13%
Martin O'Malley	2%
Jim Webb	2%
Not sure	23%
None of them	35%

46. Do you think the health care reform law should be expanded, kept the same, or repealed?

Expanded	35%
Kept the same	14%
Repealed	40%
Not sure	11%

47. From all that you know now, has the health care reform law been a complete success, a complete failure, or something in between?

A complete failure	18%
More of a failure than a success	22%
Equal amount of both failure and success	21%
More of a success than a failure	23%
A complete success	5%
Too early to tell	6%
Not sure	5%

48. Do you think the number of people with health insurance has increased, remained the same, or decreased since 2013?

Increased	58%
Remained the same	16%
Decreased	13%
Don't know	13%

49. Do you think the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase by more or less than they usually do?

The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase more than they usually do	48%
The law has not had an effect on health insurance prices for most people	17%
The law has caused health insurance prices for most people to increase less than they usually do	16%
Not sure	19%

50. Do you have health insurance?

Yes	84%
No	16%

51. Did you have health insurance for all of 2013?

Yes	76%
No	24%

52. How important are the following issues to you?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not very Important	Unimportant
The economy	74%	22%	3%	2%
Immigration	48%	35%	14%	3%
The environment	47%	33%	14%	7%
Terrorism	56%	32%	9%	4%
Gay rights	21%	22%	26%	31%
Education	60%	30%	9%	2%
Health care	66%	27%	5%	3%
Social security	63%	27%	8%	1%
The budget deficit	49%	34%	14%	3%
The war in Afghanistan	31%	43%	18%	7%
Taxes	55%	34%	9%	2%
Medicare	53%	33%	10%	4%
Abortion	35%	29%	23%	13%
Foreign policy	43%	39%	14%	4%

53. Which of these is the **most** important issue for you?

The economy	25%
Immigration	7%
The environment	7%
Terrorism	9%
Gay rights	3%
Education	8%
Health care	9%
Social security	13%
The budget deficit	5%
The war in Afghanistan	1%
Taxes	3%
Medicare	4%
Abortion	4%
Foreign policy	3%

54. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Barack Obama	25%	21%	14%	36%	4%
John Boehner	3%	15%	20%	33%	28%
Mitch McConnell	2%	14%	21%	27%	35%
Nancy Pelosi	6%	18%	15%	37%	24%
Harry Reid	4%	17%	13%	31%	36%

55. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Jeb Bush	8%	22%	21%	30%	19%
Ben Carson	13%	15%	11%	20%	41%
Chris Christie	7%	22%	19%	31%	22%
Ted Cruz	11%	17%	15%	30%	27%
Carly Fiorina	6%	16%	12%	20%	45%
Lindsey Graham	3%	15%	17%	24%	42%
Mike Huckabee	10%	18%	18%	27%	28%
Bobby Jindal	7%	17%	12%	24%	40%
John Kasich	6%	11%	8%	14%	60%
George Pataki	3%	13%	13%	17%	55%
Rand Paul	11%	19%	18%	24%	29%
Rick Perry	7%	19%	14%	30%	30%
Marco Rubio	12%	18%	16%	23%	31%
Rick Santorum	7%	18%	15%	28%	32%
Donald Trump	17%	17%	13%	43%	11%
Scott Walker	13%	12%	11%	22%	43%

56. Do you have a favorable or an unfavorable opinion of the following people?

	Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	Don't know
Joe Biden	15%	28%	16%	27%	14%
Lincoln Chafee	1%	10%	11%	15%	63%
Hillary Clinton	19%	24%	12%	37%	7%
Martin O'Malley	3%	13%	11%	15%	58%
Bernie Sanders	16%	15%	10%	21%	37%
Jim Webb	2%	14%	10%	14%	60%

57. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

Strongly approve	18%
Somewhat approve	27%
Somewhat disapprove	16%
Strongly disapprove	35%
Not sure	4%

58. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling these specific issues?

	Strongly approve	Somewhat approve	Somewhat disapprove	Strongly disapprove	No opinion
The economy	16%	24%	14%	34%	12%
Immigration	13%	22%	16%	38%	11%
The environment	13%	27%	14%	25%	19%
Terrorism	14%	26%	13%	33%	14%
Gay rights	25%	19%	10%	31%	15%
Education	14%	28%	16%	26%	17%
Health care	22%	20%	12%	37%	8%
Social security	12%	22%	16%	28%	22%
The war in Afghanistan	11%	23%	19%	30%	16%
The budget deficit	12%	22%	15%	36%	15%
Taxes	10%	24%	16%	32%	18%
Medicare	15%	21%	15%	29%	20%
Abortion	12%	18%	11%	29%	30%
Foreign policy	12%	22%	16%	32%	17%

59. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way that the United States Congress is handling its job?

Strongly approve	2%
Somewhat approve	11%
Neither approve nor disapprove	17%
Somewhat disapprove	23%
Strongly disapprove	37%
Not sure	10%

60. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the member of the US House of Representatives that represents your Congressional district is handling his or her job?

Strongly approve	5%
Somewhat approve	20%
Neither approve nor disapprove	19%
Somewhat disapprove	14%
Strongly disapprove	23%
Not sure	19%

61. Do you think the current Congress has accomplished more or less than Congress usually does at this point in its two-year term?

More than usual	6%
About the same	33%
Less than usual	45%
Not sure	17%

62. Are you better off now than you were when President Obama first took office in 2009?

Better off now	25%
About the same	31%
Worse off now	40%
Not sure	5%

63. Would you say Barack Obama is...

Very liberal	33%
Liberal	25%
Moderate	21%
Conservative	5%
Very conservative	3%
Not sure	13%

64. Would you say Barack Obama is a strong or a weak leader?

Very strong	16%
Somewhat strong	30%
Somewhat weak	23%
Very weak	30%

65. Do you think Barack Obama...

Says what he believes	38%
Says what he thinks people want to hear	51%
Not sure	11%

66. Regardless of whether you agree with him, do you like Barack Obama as a person?

Like a lot	32%
Like somewhat	31%
Dislike	29%
Not sure	9%

67. Which of these words would you use to describe Barack Obama?

	Yes	No Opinion	No
Arrogant	38%	33%	29%
Bold	26%	53%	20%
Effective	21%	45%	34%
Exciting	13%	62%	25%
Experienced	21%	51%	28%
Honest	28%	39%	34%
Hypocritical	34%	38%	27%
Inspiring	30%	42%	28%
Intelligent	53%	31%	15%
Partisan	22%	62%	16%
Patriotic	25%	44%	31%
Religious	16%	52%	33%
Sincere	28%	39%	33%
Steady	28%	53%	19%
Strong	28%	45%	27%

68. In general, how would you describe your own political viewpoint?

Very liberal	6%
Liberal	18%
Moderate	37%
Conservative	29%
Very conservative	9%
Not sure	1%

69. Are you registered to vote?

Yes	69%
No	28%
Don't know	3%

70. Overall, do you think the economy is getting better or worse?

Getting better	23%
About the same	38%
Getting worse	34%
Not sure	4%

71. Is the place where you live owned or rented?

Owned by you or your family	56%
Rented from someone else	42%
Other	2%

72. Do you think the value of your home has increased or decreased in the last year?

Asked of those who own their own homes

Increased	27%
Stayed about the same	48%
Decreased	18%
Not sure	7%

73. Do you think home prices in your area have increased or decreased in the last year?

Asked of those who do NOT own their own homes

Increased	40%
Stayed about the same	36%
Decreased	6%
Not sure	18%

74. Thinking ahead, do you think home prices in your area will increase or decrease in the next year?

Will increase a lot	11%
Will increase a little	32%
Will stay about the same	30%
Will decrease a little	8%
Will decrease a lot	5%
Not sure	14%

75. How worried are you about making your mortgage payments?

Asked of those who own their own homes

Very worried	8%
Somewhat worried	28%
Not worried	34%
Don't have mortgage payments	31%

76. Do you plan to buy a home in the next 12 months?

Will definitely buy a home	3%
Am considering buying a home	16%
Not looking for a home now	81%

77. Six months from now, do you think there will be...

More jobs	19%
The same amount of jobs	44%
Fewer jobs	23%
Not sure	14%

78. We'd like to know whether you or someone in your immediate family is currently serving or has ever served in the U.S. military. Immediate family is defined as your parents, siblings, spouse, and children. Please check all boxes that apply.

Military Household - I am	2%
Military Household - Family	9%
Military Household - I served previously	11%
Military Household - Family served previously	35%
Military Household - None	49%

79. Gender

Male	48%
Female	52%

80. Generally speaking, do you support or oppose the goals of the Tea Party movement?

Strongly support	11%
Somewhat support	15%
Neither support, nor oppose	19%
Somewhat oppose	9%
Strongly oppose	26%
Not sure	21%

81. Education

No high school	10%
High school graduate	31%
Some college	26%
2-year college	8%
4-year college	17%
Post-graduate	8%

82. Age

18-29	24%
30-44	27%
45-64	34%
65+	15%

83. Race

White	69%
Black	14%
Hispanic	11%
Other	6%

84. Region

Northeast	18%
Midwest	26%
South	34%
West	23%

85. Party Identification

Democratic	35%
Independent	33%
Republican	32%

The Economist/YouGov Poll



Sponsorship	<i>The Economist</i>
Fieldwork	YouGov
Interviewing Dates	July 11-13, 2015
Target population	U.S. citizens, aged 18 and over.
Sampling method	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by age, gender, race, education, and region) was selected from the 2010 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2010 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement. Religion, political interest, minor party identification, and non-placement on an ideology scale, were imputed from the 2008 Pew Religion in American Life Survey.
Weighting	The sample was weighted using propensity scores based on age, gender, race, education, news interest, voter registration, and non-placement on an ideology scale. The weights range from 0.2 to 4.1, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.89.
Number of respondents	1000
Margin of error	± 4.1% (adjusted for weighting)
Survey mode	Web-based interviews
Questions not reported	33 questions not reported.